

# Experience Rural New Hampshire

*Where to find unique events, learning opportunities, and places of interest featuring New Hampshire's rural heritage, agriculture and forestry.*

*Visit an historic farm, take the family to a harvest season festival, roam gardens in full bloom, shop a bountiful farmers' market, sample maple sugar on snow, get caught up in the excitement of a country fair...*

*We invite you to experience rural New Hampshire!*

*New Hampshire's rural heritage, steeped in history and tradition, forms the foundation of our state's character. Hard working, innovative Yankees laid that foundation. Experience the history and meet many of today's rural entrepreneurs.*

*Join the fun!*

**New Hampshire**  
Department of Agriculture,  
Markets & Food

Division of Agricultural Development  
PO Box 2042, 25 Capitol Street  
Concord NH 03302-2042  
Telephone: (603) 271-3788 Fax: (603) 271-1109  
Stephen H. Taylor, Commissioner

## Unusual & Special Events

**Merrimack County Conservation District Events** - Merrimack County. Year round. Pond Clinic, Gravel Pit Reclamation & other events. Call 223-6023 for more information. [info@merrimackccd.org](mailto:info@merrimackccd.org), [www.merrimackccd.org](http://www.merrimackccd.org)

**Frye's Measure Mill Gift Shop** - 12 Frye Mill Rd., Wilton. Year round: Tuesday-Saturday, 10am-5pm; Sunday, 12-5pm, January-March, call for winter hours. Shaker & Colonial boxmakers since 1858, seven room shop is filled with country furnishings, folk art, lighting, tin, iron, pewter, glass, pottery, antiques & collectibles. Mill tours of our water powered woodworking shop on Saturdays at 2pm, June-October. Admission \$4.75/person. 654-6581, [fryesmill@tiac.net](mailto:fryesmill@tiac.net), [www.fryesmeasuremill.com](http://www.fryesmeasuremill.com)

**The Fells/John Hay National Wildlife Refuge** - Rt. 103A, Newbury. Gardens & trails open daily. Historic house tours weekends, May 24-October 13. Gardening classes, guided walks, concerts, art exhibits, tea. For details, admission information & to register for events, 763-4789, [fells@tds.net](mailto:fells@tds.net) or [www.thefells.org](http://www.thefells.org)  
Christmas House Tour - December 13, 10am-4pm.

**The Rocks Estate Events Society for the Protection of NH Forests** - Bethlehem. SPNH offers a series of family oriented educational programs and activities. 444-6228. [info@therocks.org](mailto:info@therocks.org) or [www.therocks.org](http://www.therocks.org)  
Horse Drawn Wagon Rides - November 22, 28, 29, 30, December 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 10am-4pm.  
NH Crafters Fair - November 29, 30, December 6, 7, 13, 14, 10am-4pm.  
Bretzfelder Memorial Park Winter Nature Series - February 4, 11, 18, 25, 2004.  
A Winter Break: Wildlife & Blacksmithing - February 7, 2004, 10am-12pm.

**Shaker Woods Farm Bed & Breakfast Open House** - 30 Lower Smith Rd., Sanbornton. November 30, 11am-4pm; December 5, 2-6pm. Open house at a farm that features a bed & breakfast, homemade goats milk soap from LaMancha dairy goats, a large vegetable garden & a farm stand. Soap making & home use cheese classes are available on request. Nestled against the woods on a quiet road, you can take a walk in the pastures or relax on the inviting sun porch that looks out onto Lake Winnepesaukee at Point Comfort, the Canterbury Shaker's 1920s summer retreat. Free admission, rain or shine. 528-1990, [info@shakerwoodsfarm.com](mailto:info@shakerwoodsfarm.com) or [www.shakerwoodsfarm.com](http://www.shakerwoodsfarm.com)

## Museums & Historic Sites; Farm & Special Events

**Cultural Events for All Ages** - Rye Public Library, 581 Washington Rd., Rye. Ongoing, 9am-5pm, Monday, Wednesday & Friday; 1-8pm, Tuesday & Thursday; 9am-3pm, Saturday. 964-8401, [info@nharts.state.nh.us](mailto:info@nharts.state.nh.us) or [www.nh.ultranet.com/~ryepl](http://www.nh.ultranet.com/~ryepl)  
Friends of the Rye Library Speaker Series - Ongoing. Check web site for current speaker.  
Teenage Art - July 8-September 30. Exhibition of artwork from teenagers throughout the Seacoast area.

**Strawbery Banke Museum** - Marcy St., Portsmouth. Call 433-1100 for information or [www.strawberybanke.org](http://www.strawberybanke.org)  
Strawbery Banke's Candlelit Stroll - December 6, 7, 13 & 14.

**Canterbury Shaker Village** - 288 Shaker Rd. Call 783-9511 for information, admission. Open weekends beginning April 15. Open daily 10am-5pm, May 1-October 31. Lunch in the Creamery 11:30am-2:30pm or [info@shakers.org](mailto:info@shakers.org) or [www.shakers.org](http://www.shakers.org)  
A Holiday Happening Weekend - December 13-14, 11am-3pm.

**Remick Country Doctor Museum & Farm** - 58 Cleveland Hill Rd., Tamworth. There are monthly workshops in addition to the below listed activities, call 800-686-6117, [www.remickmuseum.org](http://www.remickmuseum.org) for more information.

Victorian Christmas - December 14, 1-4pm.

**Chester Eastman Homestead** - Rt. 113, North Chatham. Farm Museum, call 694-3388, [sjsseast@ncia.net](mailto:sjsseast@ncia.net) or [www.cehfarm.com](http://www.cehfarm.com) for program details & admission.

Chore Time - By reservation, 3-5pm.

Hay/Sleigh Rides - By reservation.

Ice Harvest - January 24, 2004, 11am-3pm.

Maple Sunday - March 14, 2004, 12-4pm.

## Song, Dance & Theater

**Franeestown Contra Dance** - Franeestown Town Hall. Second Saturday of every month, 8-11pm. A traditional New England Contra Dance that has been taking place in the Franeestown Town Hall since it was built in 1847, making this event one of the oldest contra dances in the US. Live traditional music & calling. All dances are taught & all levels of dancers, from beginners to experienced, are welcome. A fun event for families, singles, couples or groups. Admission \$5/person. Year round, rain or shine. 487-2480, [Yankee@grolen.com](mailto:Yankee@grolen.com)

**Arts Council of Tamworth** - Tamworth. Call 323-8104, [arts@artstamworth.org](mailto:arts@artstamworth.org) or [www.artstamworth.org](http://www.artstamworth.org) for admission & any other inquiries.

Stam Bandet in Concert - December 6, 7:30pm, Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth.

Seacoast Folk Musicians - January 24, 2004, 7:30pm, Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth.

Roots of American Dance - February 21, 2004, 7:30pm, Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth.

## Livestock

**Farm Animals** - Schroeder Farm, 126 Sutton Rd., South Newbury. Summertime. General viewing of farm animals, including Black Angus cattle, sheep, pigs, piglets (until fall), chickens & layers. Families welcome. 938-5911, [schroeder@iamnow.net](mailto:schroeder@iamnow.net)

**It's A Zoo** - Charmingfare Farm, Rt. 27, Candia. Wednesdays-Sundays, 10am-4pm. Largest collection of agricultural animals & North American wildlife in NH. A visit to our 180 acre farm is affordable, educational & exciting for children & adults. The farm is home to over 200 animals consisting of 30 different species. The barnyard area includes all the traditional agricultural animals you would expect to see on a farm. Children especially enjoy our hands on petting area. Follow the paths leading into the woods & you will encounter our wildlife exhibits, see some of our greatest predators. 483-5623, [www.visitthefarm.com](http://www.visitthefarm.com)

## Hay & Sleigh Rides

**Fieldstone Farm Hay & Sleigh Rides** - Haverhill. Year round. Horse drawn rides in a traditional traverse sled or wagon with comfortable hay bale seats for up to 14 passengers. An hour long ride through field & forest with a splendid view of the Connecticut River Valley. Refreshments served at trail's end. During the summer & fall months our picnic area is open, complete with a campfire for cooking. Moonlight rides are available during the winter months. We also offer an elegant vis-a-vis carriage for weddings, anniversaries & other special occasions. We travel as well as host rides at the farm. Please call for weather conditions & reservations, 989-3357, [tannfarm@together.net](mailto:tannfarm@together.net)

**Punch Brook Farm** - 77 North Rd., Franklin. 934-2738, [sheep@together.net](mailto:sheep@together.net) or [www.PunchBrookFarm.com](http://www.PunchBrookFarm.com)

Sleigh ride activities:

Horse Drawn Wagon Rides - October-December, day or evening, by reservation. Crisp air, private campfires & popcorn, couples, families, groups enjoy a horse drawn wagon ride through the woods. Visit the animals in the barnyard.

Horse Drawn Sleigh Rides - December 2003-March 2004, day or evening, by reservation. Couples, families or groups can enjoy a one horse sleigh or a team sleigh. Ride through open fields, wooded trails & along the picturesque Punch Brook Farm. Warm up at your private campfire with some goodies & we'll be back to get you for another ride. Baby lambs are being born in February & March. You'll want to hold one!

Group Sleigh Rides & Lambing Time - February 18-March 22, 2004, day or evenings, by reservation. Bring your group (school, youth, club, church, etc.) for a sleigh ride, campfire & farm tour. Hold a baby lamb, maybe see a live birth. Greenhouse production will be in progress. Be an active participant of a working farm.

Valentine Sleigh Ride - February 14, 2004, day or evening, by reservation. Surprise your Valentine & hop on the "Sweetheart Express" where we will drop you off at a romantic campfire area. Bring a beverage of your choice & enjoy the warmth of the fire, before we make your return trip. A memory that will last forever.

**Charmingfare Farm Hay/Sleigh Rides** - Rt. 27, Candia. Call for reservations & admission fees. 483-5623, [www.visitthefarm.com](http://www.visitthefarm.com)

Lighted Winter Wonderland - December 7, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27.

Traditional Hay & Sleigh Rides - Fall & winter seasons.

Single Horse Drawn Sleigh - January-March.

## About Town

**Christmas Tree Lighting/Children's Store** - Dustin Park, Pittsfield. December 5, 6pm. Christmas caroling, refreshments, disc jockey, hayrides, Children's Store & tree lighting. 435-6346.

**Hometown Holiday** - Main St., Goffstown. December 6, 1-5pm. A holiday event for the whole family, hayrides, crafts to make & take, reindeer games, entertainment, special lighting displays & tree lighting. 497-9933, [goffstownmainst@fcgnetworks.net](mailto:goffstownmainst@fcgnetworks.net) or [www.goffstownmainst.org](http://www.goffstownmainst.org)

**Francetown Holiday Fair & Silent Auction** - Francetown Town Hall. December 6, 9am-3pm. Charming fair offers wonderful holiday shopping with crafters, artisans & specialty companies. The huge Silent Auction features over 150 wide ranging items. Auction items are listed for review and online bidding at [www.francetownpreschool.org](http://www.francetownpreschool.org) one month prior to the event. Hot soups, hearty meals & delectable treats will delight browsers. Free admission. 547-2055, [francetownpreschool@yahoo.com](mailto:francetownpreschool@yahoo.com)

**Santa is Having a Big Party!** - Charmingfare Farm, Rt. 27, Candia. December 13, 14, 20, 21, 11am-3pm. Reservations required, \$10/person, infants 12 months & under free. You are invited to join Santa & the whole gang, a 30 minute horsedrawn ride will take you to the party location, many familiar fabled Christmas characters will be there, Elves, Frosty, Kris the Christmas Bear, the Grinch, Mrs. Clause will be serving her homemade sugar cookies with hot cocoa! Dasher, a live reindeer, will be there, so bring your camera! 483-5623, [www.visitthefarm.com](http://www.visitthefarm.com)

**First Night Wolfeboro** - Wolfeboro. December 31, begins at 2pm. Events in churches & schools, refreshments available, parade at 5pm, fireworks at 5:30pm & midnight, ice cutting, face painting, family entertainment, bands, theatre, dancing, great for all ages! 569-4994.

### Maple Sugaring

**Maple Time** - The Rocks Estate, 4 Christmas Ln., Bethlehem. March 13, 20 & 27, 2004. The Rocks will offer a series of family oriented educational programs in which participants will learn all about the production of maple syrup. Take a horse drawn wagon ride around the property & see up close the modern day tube sap collection system. Visit the sugarhouse. Refreshments will be available. 444-6228, [infor@therocks.org](mailto:infor@therocks.org) or [www.therocks.org](http://www.therocks.org)

**Sap Gathering Contest** - Stonewall Farm, 242 Chesterfield Rd., Keene. March 27, 2004, 10am-4pm. Join teamsters as they tell the story of our region's maple sugaring heritage as they compete. Hay rides, sugarhouse tours, children's activities & lunch available. 357-7278. [lmcmaster@stonewallfarm.org](mailto:lmcmaster@stonewallfarm.org) or [www.StonewallFarm.org](http://www.StonewallFarm.org)

**Sugarhouse Tours** - Sugar Shack, 314 Rt. 4, Barrington. March, April-Mother's Day, weekends, 7:30am-1pm. All you can eat breakfast buffet. Entertainment on Sunday's, 10am-12pm. Tours of sugarhouse are year round. Gift shop. 1-800-57-MAPLE. HGowen3082@aol.com. [www.maplesugarshack.net](http://www.maplesugarshack.net).

### Farms of Distinction

In 1997 the NH Department of Agriculture, Markets & Food introduced a program recognizing those farms that make an extra effort to keep their busy farmsteads neat and attractive. The New Hampshire Farms of Distinction program honors have been awarded to 63 farms to date. Each farm displays an attractive Farms of Distinction sign. For more information about the NH Farms of Distinction program contact the NH Department of Agriculture, Markets & Food at 271-3788. Among New Hampshire's prettiest farms are:

Allard Farm, Conway  
Ancestral Acres, New Hampton  
Apple Annie, Brentwood  
Apple Hill Farm, Concord  
Bartlett's Blueberry Farm, Newport  
Beans & Greens Farm, Gilford  
Beech Hill Farm, Hopkinton  
Berry Hill Farm, Stratham  
Bickford Homestead Farm, Orford  
Boggy Meadow Farm, Walpole  
Brookdale Fruit Farm, Hollis  
Butternut Farm, Farmington  
Clark's Sugarhouse, Langdon  
Clear Stream Farm, Errol  
Cornerstone Equestrian Center, Belmont  
D.S. Cole Growers, Loudon  
Eccardt Farm, E. Washington  
Edgewater Farm, Plainfield  
Elsesser Blueberry Farm, Alstead  
Glen Farm, Piermont  
Goudreault Farm, Plaistow  
Gould Hill Orchards, Contoocook  
Graymist Farm, Groveton  
High Hopes Orchard, Westmoreland  
Highway View Farm, Boscawen

Indian Hill Farm & Greenhouse, S. Hampton  
Indian Stream Farm, Pittsburg  
J&F Farms, Derry  
Longview Farm, Plymouth  
Malnati Farm, Walpole  
Maple Hill Farm, Monroe  
Maple Homestead Farm, Marlborough  
McNamara Dairy/Mac's Happy Acres, Plainfield  
Minot Farm, Woodsville  
Moose Hill Orchards, Londonderry  
Morrill Farm, Penacook  
Moulton Farm, Meredith  
Mount Cube Farm, Orford  
Mountain Star Farm, Rye  
Nesenkeag Co-op Farm, Litchfield  
New Field Farm, Temple  
Nunsuch Farm, Bradford  
Punch Brook Farm, Franklin  
Riverview Farm, Plainfield  
S.A. & A.S. Bartlett Farm, Concord  
Saltbox Farm, Stratham  
Sanctuary, Sunapee  
Scenic Nursery, Raymond  
Shaw's Hill Farm, Kensington  
Sherman Farm, Center Conway  
Spider Web Gardens, Center Tuftonboro  
Springledge Farm, New London  
Sunnycrest Farm, Londonderry  
Tadmor Farm, Lebanon  
Tullando Farm, Orford  
Van Berkum Nurseries, Deerfield  
Walhowdon Farm, Lebanon  
Wayside Farm, N. Sandwich  
Weir Tree Farms, Colebrook  
Wellscroft Farm, Harrisville  
West View Farm & Orchard, N. Haverhill  
Windswept Maples, Loudon  
Windyhurst Farm, Westmoreland

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